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Appomattox, Va

Trying Stem the Tide by Tricks

Senator Medill McCormick, in a desperate effort to draw public attention away from high taxes, high living costs Newberryism, the huge deficit in the treasury, strikes, coal shortage and other troubles tries to raise the issue of the League of Nations. He taunts the Democrats with having dropped the League.

A few weeks ago the country was astounded that Secretary Hughes would reopen as foul a wound as the Newberry scandal; now the thinking people are astonished that McCormick should bring up a subject upon which his party has such a record of faking. So far as the Democratic attitude is concerned, it is recognized that the election in November can have no direct bearing on the fortunes of the League one way or another. If the Democracy should lick the platter clean in the coming election it would be in no position to initiate or carry through any desires it might have in the matter of the League. The Constitution gives to the House of Representatives for control of which the Democrats are fighting, no voice in the determination of our foreign policies, excepting in the matter of declaring war. If the Democrats should win all the Senate seats in contest they could not control that body, which the president, who stands pledged to an Association of Nations, is, notwithstanding that pledge, a bar to such a union for peace.

Republican politicians around Washington are now openly boasting about the clever move of the administration in pleasing the dry voters with the order suspending for the time being the sale of liquor on shipboard. It is another trick. The president is using it to get votes in November and to get his ship subsidy measure through Congress, for he has sounded all the Western Republican Congressmen to know if they will support the bill if he should stop the sale of whiskey on the ships. It is stopped—for a while. The scheme again marks the party as master-tricksters.

Gas Tax To Build Roads

Maj. Marvin Smithey of Lawrenceville, delegate from Burnswick, who introduced a resolution on the second day of the last session of the General Assembly and passage of a bond issue, is now openly advocating a special session of the General Assembly and passage of a bond issue under plan agreed to with proponents of the bond issue in the General Assembly which will be a guarantee to the people of the State that the bond issue will be financed without any increase in the general property tax. Major Smithey has addressed a letter to his colleagues in the House of Delegates explaining the provisions of the agreed measure, which is as follows:

"Since the adjournment of the last session of the Legislature, I have given considerable study to the question of the proposed State bond issue for roads. I have found from my talks with people in every walk of life and in different sections of the State that the two principal objections to the proposed bond issue, are first: a fear on the part of the people that the tax on property would be increased by reason of the bond issue, and second, that the highway system as at present laid out would be changed from time to time and would be a source of constant worry and irritation.

"I finally reached the conclusion that if two provisions would be written into the bill authorizing the bond issue and into the bonds themselves the first pledging the State of Virginia that so long as the bonds are outstanding, a tax would be levied on gasoline or other motor fuel or other vehicular motor power sufficient to pay the interest and create a sinking fund for the retirement of the bonds, and the second, providing that the proceeds derived from the sale of the bonds shall be expended on the highway system as at present paid out these objections would be absolutely removed. I accordingly discussed the matter at length with Senator Goolrick and the Hon. R Holman Willis and have reached an agreement with them that the bill providing for the bond issue and the bonds themselves shall contain the two provisions set forth above. You can readily see that the provision as to the gasoline tax will constitute an enforseable contract between the State of Virginia and the bond holders. This provision in the opinion of several lawyers whom I have consulted will not only not adversely affect the salability of the bonds, but will really enhance their marketability for the obvious reason that in addition to the full faith and credit of the State being pledged to the payment of the bonds, there will be the added assurance to the bond holders that at all times a specific fund will be available, out of which the interest could be paid and a sinking fund created.

"Knowing your devotion to the farming interests of the State, I am writing to invite your most careful consideration to this proposition and I am convinced that upon reflection you will come to the conclusion that it will redound to the advantage of the farmers of the State for the State highway system to be constructed speedily out of the gasoline tax, rather than to have the construction spread out over a peroid of possibly twenty years and the cost paid out of the annual property tax. In addition, the State of Virginia will derive a large sum of money from the tourists who use our roads. The plan of having those who use the roads pay for their construction seems to me to be the fairest one that can be devised. The small tax on gasoline will be many times compensated for so far as the owners of motor vehicles are concerned, by reason of the longer life of the tires, the greater gasoline mileage and the longer life of the vehicless.

"At the last session of the Legislature, under the plan then provided of having two separate bill, one providing for the bond issue and one providing for the gasoline tax (any subsequent Legislature having the power to repeal the gasoline tax) I felt that ultimately the tax for the payment of the bonds would fall upon the land, but under the agreement reached between Senator Goolrick, Mr. Willis and myself, there can be no possibility of any increase of taxes by reason of the issuance of the bonds.

"Please give this matter your careful consideration, and if you can consistently do so, write the Governor joining in the request that he call an extra session of the Legislature to pass upon the bond issue question. I shall be glad if you will write me your views in the premises, and I know Senator Goolrick and Mr. Willis will both be delighted to hear from you on the subject."

Very sincerely,
(Signed) Marvin Smithey.

Buckingham

An unusual number of cases were disposed of in the circuit court which was in session here last week. Most of them were civil cases. The case against Fletcher Branch was tried before a jury, this was a case appealed from a Justice court and where a wife complained of her husband for non support and she got a verdict whereby her husband is required to pay her $15 per month. The case that contracted most interest however, was the one against Luke Brown charged with killing Charles E Brown. The defendant was represented by Mr. John B. Boatwright of this place and Mr. John Easeley of Lynchburg, while the Commonwealth was represented by our able attorney E. W. Hubard who had as his assistants the law firm of Moon & Wood. The killing was clearly proven and also admitted by the defendant who claimed that he shot Charles E. Brown in self defence and the jury failed to agree standing 8 for acquittal and four for conviction. Never in the annals of court proceedings have I seen just what I witnessed in this case, where the negroes seemed luke warm and unconcerned, as to the outcome of the trial and where arranged on each side were white people of means and influence and the trial was attended by ladies who have seldom or never entered the precincts of a circuit court before in their lives. The situation seems to have been brought about by reason of the fact that the defendant Luke Brown had been a domestic servant in a family of influence this causing this family and their friends to want to see him acquitted. On the other hand it is alleged that a wealthy and influential citizen gave freely of his means, time and influence to aid in the prosecution, actuated by a feeling best known to himself.

I see there is going to be war to the knife and the knife to the hilt when the tobacco sales come on. It looks like most of the Buckingham county tobacco is going to be sold in this county. The Association has a warehouse at Dillwyn and one at New Canton. Most men who own tobacco have signed up, but there are a few who have not done so, and I hear that one large tobacco grower was stripping his tobacco last week getting it ready for market and he is not a member of the association. I also hear of men who are interested in an independent tobacco ware house who are members of the association. I hear however, that they want to get out of the association.

Dr. Smith, of Farmville, was in Buckingham last week in consultation with Dr. Morriss in the case of Mrs. Ada Gilliam when she was so very ill.

Dr. Hardy, of Farmville, was here last week as a witness at the trial of Luke Brown.

W. W. Haskins was a visitor last week in Farmville and Prospect where he spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Hunter T. Ferguson.

I hear farmers say that men employed by the tobacco Association are being paid very fine salaries.

"The Last Lee Camp Association" held a successful meeting here on the first day of circuit court and many new members joined the association your name and one dollar sent to Miss Fannie T. White, secretary & treasurer, will insure your becoming a member of an association which will carry to fruition the hopes of the patriots of Buckingham who are seeking to erect a monumemt that will show to the coming generations where General Robert E. Lee had his last earthly camp.

I want the patrons of the schools in James River district to know that I have left no stone unturned in my efforts to get teachers to supply the vacancies and I hope when the teachers come to the new places the board will promptly furnish them. In one or two instances no one would agree to board the teacher.

Brown & Smith offers a pair os Selz Six Shoes to the party bringing the biggest wagon or truck load of folks to the Appomattox Fair, each person must buy a ticket to the Fair Appomattox Fair Association.
10-11-2w

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Touring Car with Starter and Dem. Rims	393
Truck Chassis	380
Coupe, with starter dem. rims	530
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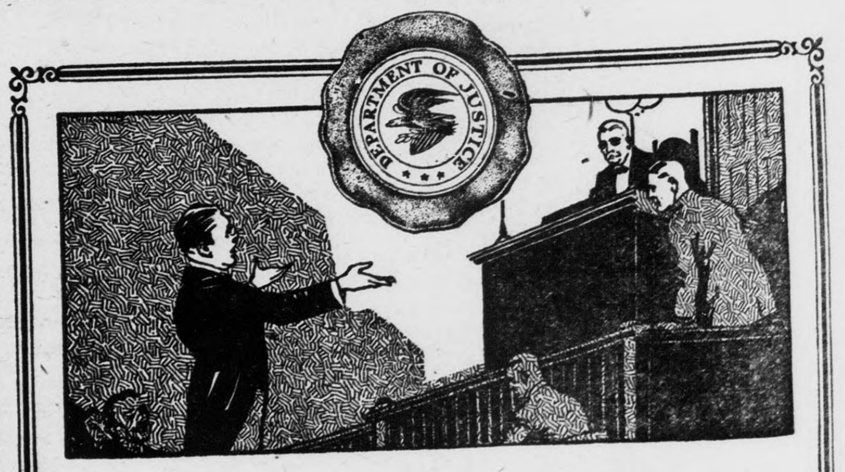

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